Emerging Issues in Environmental Protection: An Overview

May 23, 2002

Robert Olson, Research Director Institute for Alternative Futures Begin to anticipate future environmental problems, and then take steps to avoid them, not just respond to them after the fact.

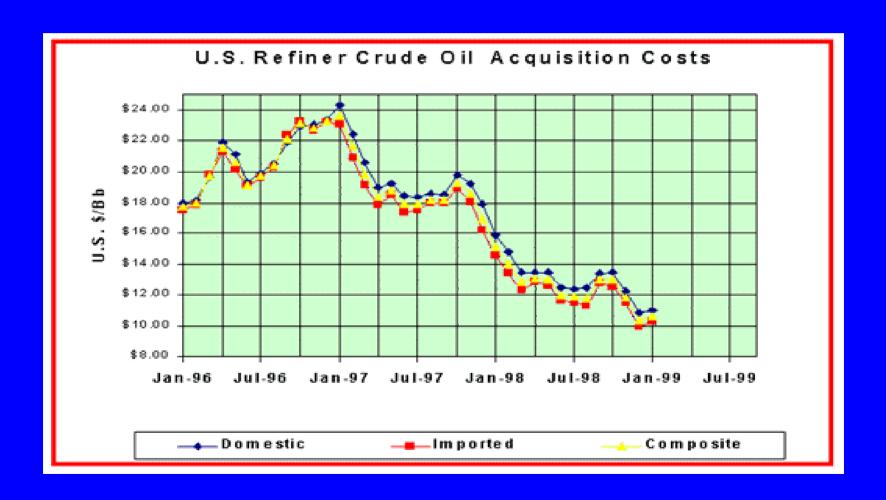
SAB, Beyond The Horizon



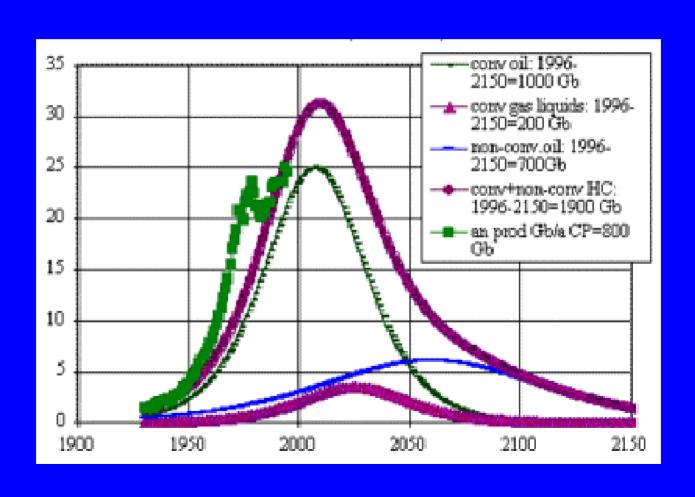
Encourage environmental foresight efforts in offices and programs throughout the Agency... Incorporate futures analysis into Agency strategic planning.

NACEPT, The Environmental Future

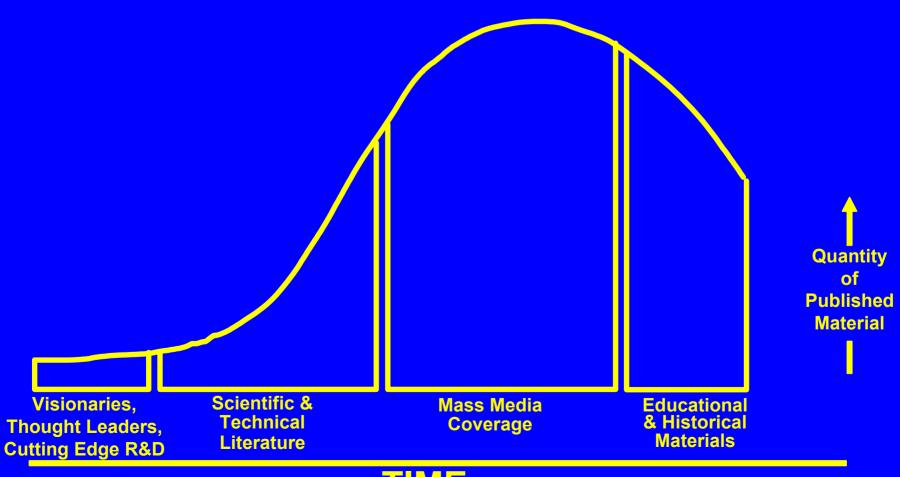
Trend in Oil Prices



Jean Laherrère on the Global Hubbert Peak

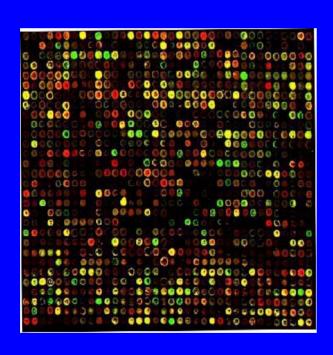


Search for Emerging Developments



TIME

DNA Arrays and Fuel Cells





Lookout Panel

Peter Senge

The most important development today is the emergence of companies that understand the bottom line benefits of resource productivity, clean products, and remanufacturing and recycling - companies developing the technologies of the Next Industrial Revolution. The key question for EPA's future is how significant a role it can have in fostering innovation and social learning as opposed to just regulating the technologies of the past.

Lookout Panel

David V. J. Bell

- > Articulate Vision, Set Goals
- Lead by Example operations & purchasing
- Create Appropriate "Framework Conditions"

market instruments, perverse subsidies, revenue neutral tax shifts

► Promote Innovation

thinking technology policy

thinking, technology, policy

The Challenge

Identify emerging developments — either opportunities to pursue or problems to head off — in your own area of responsibility.

If some of them come near the importance of the examples we have looked at, bring them into the strategic planning process.